

# **EXHIBIT 1**

**DRAFT**

United States v. Ng Chong Hwa

DRAFT TRANSCRIPT OF HAWK MP3

DATE: October 16, 2018 at 4:22pm

PARTICIPANTS:

Lim Hwee Bin	LIM
Tim Leissner	LEISSNER

KEY:

[U/I]	Unintelligible
[SP]	Spelling

Special Agent Nathan Lumby Special Agent Nathan Lumby [SP?] of the FBI. I'm here at, uh, October 16, 2018, at approximately 4:22pm. Timothy Leissner is going to do a consensual recording with Hwee Bin Lim, beginning now.

[phone ringing]

LIM Hi, morning, I'm U/I

LEISSNER Good morning, sorry, Hwee Bin. Good morning.

LIM Good morning.

LEISSNER It's a little bit early. I thought I just tried to grab you in case you guys have things to do this morning.

LIM Oh, yeah, Don't worry because I actually watched a movie until quite late last night. [laughter]

LEISSNER Oh my goodness.

LIM How are you?

LEISSNER I'm good, I'm good. What were you watching?

LIM No, just one of those Netflix movies. You look good—you look so much better now.

LEISSNER Thank you—I thought I always look like this. Maybe, I got, I got a haircut; that's what I did.

LIM [laughter]. How how how's things; how's things?

LEISSNER For me, everything is good, um, you know, in, um, was traveling quite a little bit you know in the summer. When we spoke last, I think I was in New York then LA, back to New York and back and forth. What's—It's been good. Lots of business. You know, our friends at Celsius are keeping me busy and I think keeping Roger busy. And that's pretty much it. I mean, all the press that you read, Hwee Bin, little bit crazy. Too too much, you know, and so I wouldn't, I wouldn't, worry about those things.

LIM Oh, good good good good good.

LEISSNER [laughter]

LIM Good good.

LEISSNER How are you guys?

LIM Um,

LEISSNER How is it going with you and Rog?

LIM Yeah, I just want to tell you that, um, when we met—I met the lady master last night. Everything is still intact.

LEISSNER Ok, great.

LIM So I, I was, I thought it was very good so I wanted to let you know that.

LEISSNER Oh, that's very sweet.

LIM So I wanted to let you know that, and now—

LEISSNER The fung shui is good? The fung shui is good?

LIM Yeah, um, yeah. So things are moving very very, you know, in the right direction.

LEISSNER Mhm.

LIM You will have that that up and down and everything, but yes, they said everything's going to be good for you.

LEISSNER That's great.

LIM So I'm glad, I'm glad, it be, yeah, yeah.

LEISSNER Thank you very much. But, I'm happy, because as you know I'm sweating it everyday too, of course. You know, and I'm worried. Um.

LIM Hm, Yeah.

LEISSNER Especially with our young friend. You never know with our young friend.

LIM [laughter]

LEISSNER I'm very worried about him.

LIM Oh, ok. I don't know. I mean, I also read from the press right about him sometimes.

LEISSNER Mhm.

LIM But I don't know where, what is out there, what's he doing and all these things. So.

LEISSNER He's the one I worry the most.

LIM Everything is just [U/I] press these days. Yeah. Yeah. And um.

LEISSNER How's Rog doing?

LIM And um . . . Okay—I mean, he's trying to keep himself busy. I mean, you know, like you said the last time when the press came out that, you know, he vanished, so, from the web. But people read it as another banker being murdered. [laughter]. And, and, and, the rumor has it that one more banker has been murdered.

LEISSNER Really? That's what they said in Malaysia?

LIM Yeah, well, you know, they, they only reads the headline. They read half the headline.

LEISSNER Hm.

LIM And, and, that's how it got, it got, it got, it got, it got passed around and all that stuff, yeah.

LEISSNER That's crazy, Hwee Bin. That's crazy.

LIM So crazy. Yeah.

LEISSNER But no no problems with the authorities and stuff like that? They keeping away from you?

LIM Um, yeah so that's, that's why I thought I wanted to call you and then talk to you about. Because um, we, well, have our fair share of things.

LEISSNER Hm.

LIM Thing were okay—moving very very, um, moving in the right direction. So, uh, uh, uh, uh talking about authority-wise, there was nothing, uh, that uh, it's not, it's not, it's not penalty. It's not, um, a legal, legal, basis, you know, they were talking about just looking at uh forfeiture.

LEISSNER I see.

LIM Right, so that's why I wanted to, you know, ask, um, if everything's okay.

LEISSNER I think so, I mean, from my side, there's no need. I mean, my lawyers are talking to the authorities in America—you know whether it's the

SEC, the Federal Reserve Bank and everybody. I'm, nobody really has much of a view, to be honest, Hwee Bin, on this side. So, I think, I'm not so sure how they're working with Malaysia. That's why I'm interested to see always what Malaysia's been saying or Singapore whatever you know because it's really a mystery to me here.

LIM Malaysia Malaysia Malaysia, right, Malaysia has been a lot of forfeiture happening now. They, they, I think uh it comes to the point where, they think, you know, uh they wanted the money back.

LEISSNER Mhm.

LIM So, I tried to explain to them, right? That, um, it has always been the case where there was , uh, business ongoing.

LEISSNER Mhm.

LIM I told them the truth. I told them that it was an investment.

LEISSNER Mhm.

LIM And it was a big thing, you know? And, uh, I don't believe what was said, I said, right?

LEISSNER Mhm.

LIM I did not believe what was said. And um, I think a lot of this was, I felt that it was, "oh, you know, we *felt* it was like this," "we *felt* it was like that. So, hence, uh, we wanted to forfeit." So, I told them, I said, "no, you cannot just forfeit. Because how can you just forfeit without no, I mean, you want me to just sign an SD to say that you know, you want, you want, you want me to surrender."

LEISSNER Mhm.

LIM Right? I said "I cannot just sign an SD to just say I want to surrender because I am telling you the truth. I'm telling you because there is a real business ongoing uh –there was business. "

LEISSNER Mhm.

LIM And that's how the whole thing happens that way. So, they said, "oh you know, because you cannot provide me any form of documents

and what's so, what not, how to prove that the, that the, whole thing is yours."

LEISSNER You mean the Capital Place money right? You mean the Capital Place money?

LIM Mm, mm, correct. So, I said "that is so crazy because this thing happened like way back in 2005 and then, you know, the whole and then the investment starts and then we decided to wind down in 2011. And why is it you're doing this to me. I mean, who kept documents since those days?"

LEISSNER Yeah.

LIM And all this things happens in China. I said, "this is very crazy."

LEISSNER Right.

LIM So—yeah, so—I was just hope—

LEISSNER So that's what they're trying to get. But, is that Malaysia or Singapore? Because, I think that all went into Singapore, but Malaysia.

LIM Malaysia.

LEISSNER Hm.

LIM Malaysia.

LEISSNER Hm. So they're working with Singapore, probably, very closely.

LIM Um, I don't know if they're really working with Singapore very closely because, um, um, I think I think they're quite independent of each other now.

LEISSNER I see.

LIM It's not exactly—yeah, yeah.

LEISSNER That's also the feeling I get here you know, I don't—in America I don't know I don't see how they're working with the other countries. I'm sure they, they do. But, it's, it's, um, my lawyers are pretty much handling it now, which is good, because, you know, it leaves me to do whatever I have to do—my little businesses, Celsius and everything. That's good.

LIM We have decided we don't even bother having lawyers here.

LEISSNER Really?

LIM We do not even hire lawyers. So, because, um, because the thing is that they come and then they said "oh, you know, all we wanted was to forfeit." They go around forfeiting almost everyone. I think I think that target was pretty clear. And then things they cannot prove, they say "oh we just want the money back. That's it."

LEISSNER I see.

LIM Right. You know, but the thing is, it comes to a point where I say, "look you cannot do that to me right? You cannot do that to me because I just cannot just say 'oh, I'm going to let you have everything.' How can I? I mean, you, you've got to prove to me too as the authority to say that I am, you know, taking what it is.' But, you are just saying, 'oh, you know just because of this and that.' And you refuse to believe me that, you know, there was business in the first place."

LEISSNER Mhm.

LIM And so they were saying, "ok if you can provide *any* form of documentation, then, um that would be how was it." So, I thought that was pretty crazy.

LEISSNER Yeah.

LIM And they were so insistent and all, you know. Uh, they, they, they think that it was, um, you know, the company was actually, you know, uh, somehow link or related to you or even your. And so we said "no, we never think so and we never believe. And then, it was never the case, at least during the time when we were investing."

LEISSNER Mhm.

LIM So, we were very, very clear about that one. Because we knew it wasn't, at least at that time. So, I said, "no, I mean, you know, at that time, at least you're telling me during my time of investment I knew who it was." Right?



LEISSNER Mhm.

LIM I knew who I was dealing with.

LEISSNER Right.

LIM Very clearly.

LEISSNER Hm. Interesting.

LIM So that it was it is. Yeah, so.

LEISSNER And no word from our friend ever because I don't, also, by the way, you know, he took me off the WeChat, you know. Nothing ever from him again.

LIM Oh, oh, oh.

LEISSNER So, and I think he spread, I think he spread a bunch of rumors around about me, to be honest, also and, which I don't, quite frankly I didn't quite understand that, Hwee Bin, but, I don't know.

LIM I did, I did, I did I did mention to you the last time, right, that was a couple of months back. Yeah.

LEISSNER Yeah. But then it's not right that he spread that rumor. What's in it for him? Anyways.

LIM I also don't know. [laughter]. I tell you the way he talks, right? So, we're just, um, so that's how I thought well, you know. So, just, just start as a friend, just wanted to see if there is anything, um, you know. But, uh—

LEISSNER Nothing.

LIM Whether we have any form of documents, and I mean if you could help me with any form of—

LEISSNER Oh, I got you, you mean with Capital Place, with Judy?

LIM Yeah, if she still kept any, any, any, any form of documents. If I could contact her.

LEISSNER Yeah, maybe so, maybe so. I would have to tell—I would have to speak with her. You know, we don't speak that much anymore these days, with Judy. Rarely, and mainly about the girls. That's about it, that's about it.

LIM Oh, okay, I see, I see, okay. Um, okay, maybe I can try to reach her—

LEISSNER Yeah.

LIM —and speak to her. Because, I, I was, I was, I was telling I said, okay fine, if you need me to speak, I did mention that. Right? To the authorities, yeah.

LEISSNER Mhm, mhm.

LIM That, okay, “if you want me to get the documents I’ll have to speak to her” and then they said “oh, by all means, you speak to her.” So I said, “But, are you sure you want me to speak to her and then you don’t come back to say that ‘oh, you know, I’m talking to someone you shouldn’t be talking to?’ And—”

LEISSNER Yeah.

LIM You know all this stuff. And they said “no, you are, you are very welcome to speak to anybody—and we just want your money.”

LEISSNER Yeah, it’s tricky, I mean, of course, they’ll say that today and then you’ll go back and say “I spoke to her and here are the documents,” then they may say, you know.

LIM No, no, at Malaysia is—they will either ignore it, but knowing Malaysia, they just want the money.

LEISSNER Right, right. So, whatever it is, they’ll just take it.

LIM Mm. Mm.

LEISSNER Yeah.

LIM Yeah without prejudice, they’ll take everything without prejudice. Yeah. So, I was telling them, “No, you got to believe me. This is a real, you know, it was an investment. I mean who kept documents, I mean, back in like, you know, those days until now.

LEISSNER Yeah.

LIM So they said, “Yeah, you can’t even provide me with anything.”

LEISSNER Hm.

LIM So, I thought, well, that's so crazy. Yeah, yeah, so, they've been um, pressing me to, um, to sign, um, um, um SD to—

LEISSNER What's an, what's an SD, Hwee Bin?

LIM To—surrender—statutory declaration. To surrender.

LEISSNER Oh. Hm.

LIM Yeah, yeah.

LEISSNER That sounds pretty crazy.

LIM Yeah, yeah, but otherwise...

LEISSNER Hm.

LIM Everything is the same.

LEISSNER [laughter]. I hear Roger is busy with Celsius because, you know, I don't speak to him, but they, you know I speak with the Celsius people. They tell me he's doing a good job.

LIM Yeah, he's still running around. He's still uh trying to sort out the, uh, I heard some, um, getting the approvals for Malaysia and they're setting up the plant and something like that.

LEISSNER Right.

LIM And then also on all other things that you all spoke about, right?

LEISSNER Yeah.

LIM Yeah, all those things. I think, um, the last time I heard, he was, uh, said you came up with some very good ideas or something, I heard him talking to John. He said yeah, that's the good one. And then he said yeah, we should get more involved in that route. Something like that.

LEISSNER I can't remember. The only thing I said to Celsius, was, was that you know, don't—

LIM He can't wait to, he can't wait to work with you again. [laughter]

LEISSNER I know, I know, I know because I give, I give my feedback I give my feedback to, you know, to the Celsius folks and then I know they talk to Roger. And then they said to me as well that Roger thought those

were good ideas. But, he cannot travel yet. Can he? No, I guess not.  
You guys are stuck in KL.

LIM Until, [U/I]. If I had signed it a month ago, we would've been able to travel. If I had signed it two months ago, we would've been able to travel.

LEISSNER Really? But, this way no?

LIM It was my timing.

LEISSNER Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

LIM But yeah but I thought it was pretty crazy if you can't as the authority you come to me so hard and just say you just want everything. Right? You just want everything and then, and then, and then you say just because you cannot prove to me—you don't have the documents.

LEISSNER Yeah.

LIM I thought that was pretty crazy.

LEISSNER Yeah. That's really—that's sad.

LIM Yeah. But, uh, but, uh you where you are, they are not even asking that? They are not even bothered, right?

LEISSNER They are bothered. You know, people are bothered. But, I think they are talking. They happily talking to my lawyers. And I think that's, that the best way for me to handle it—so keep it away from my family, keep it away from me. And, you know, the lawyers can handle and speak to them. So, sorry—

LIM Oh, I see.

LEISSNER —that was a new update from my iPhone. [laughter] that was just popped up.

LIM [Laughter].

LEISSNER Yeah, no, so I think, that's the most comfortable for me as well, I have to say.

LIM Mm. Mm. that's good, that's good. At least, you kept yourself, you know, and then back to work and all that thing.

LEISSNER Yeah. Correct.

LIM Okay, okay. Okay.

LEISSNER And, you know the one thing I didn't tell you. Some people here worried, you know, about my safety also because they thought between our young friend, you know, the Abu Dhabis and people, you know, this could be dangerous. Especially with when he, and we thought he put out that news that I was, you know, in plea discussions and whatever, you know. So, we thought it could be a little bit dangerous, you know, especially if he's in China or some places. You never know, right? Life is very inexpensive there. Or Abu Dhabi, his friends there, life is inexpensive. So, we were worried about that for a while.

LIM Are you serious? Wow, but is that okay now? Is it better for you now?

LEISSNER Nothing has happened in the last three months, you know, so, uh, you know, going by that we feel we feel more comfortable, but you never know of course, right? So.

LIM Right. But no, um, not according to the lady master. You're going to do one more. [laughter]

LEISSNER Okay, well.

LIM You're going to do more than what you have now.

LEISSNER That's good news, that's good news for me, you know, to have, uh, to have that in place.

LIM Right right right, yeah.

LEISSNER The fung shui master.

LIM Yeah, yeah.

LEISSNER Well,

LIM Okay.

LEISSNER Please feel free—

LIM I'm glad to hear.

LEISSNER                    Feel free to reach out anytime, Hwee Bin. You know, in the mornings, in the mornings I normally take the boys to school, so that's when I get stuck in traffic. And that's—

LIM                            Oh, the two boys, the two young boys. Okay.

LEISSNER                    Yeah, they go to the same school.

LIM                            Is the little boy going to school as well?

LEISSNER                    Yes.

LIM                            Good.

LEISSNER                    Preschool—

LIM                            Such a big boy now.

LEISSNER                    —three and a half years old. three and a half years old. So he's going to preschool and Kenzo is going to the same school. And he's in like 4<sup>th</sup> grade or something, so.

LIM                            This is such a—this is so much better for you now that you actually missed out on all that family life before that. You were working too hard. You were working too hard.

LEISSNER                    Yeah, I know. Now finally now finally I'm a home man, I'm a family man. Took many years to get there.

LIM                            Yes, yes, yes. And I think it's good, it's good. It's very good. At least, you know, having family around is very different, right?

LEISSNER                    Yeah, for sure.

LIM                            Having family around is very different.

LEISSNER                    Yeah, totally.

LIM                            Yeah. Yeah. Okay. Okay, okay I'm telling you, I'm telling you—what I'll do is I'll try to reach out to her myself and then ask her whether she still has any form of our documents prior to all those things and then we'll see how it goes from there.

LEISSNER                    Okay. I think that's perfect, Hwee Bin.

LIM                            [U/I]. Yeah yeah yeah.

LEISSNER If you do hear anything from young friend that I should be concerned about or anything—any rumblings, let me know. You know, because, maybe Terrence—

LIM Mm. Definitely

LEISSNER —because you guys have a good, you’re on the ground with that gang.

LIM Yes, we hear, um, um, people talk, we hear rumors. But sometimes, I do not know. But last time I thought I saw in the papers right, um, not the papers, the web—this web Malaysia Inside.

LEISSNER Mhm.

LIM That they were saying that he was also, uh, he was also trying to strike a deal, right? Or something like that, on the firm—throw the firm under the bus, or something like that. So...

LEISSNER You mean, the firm.

LIM That was the last one.

LEISSNER The firm being, you know. Goldman Sachs?

LIM Yeah, isn’t it? Oh, it was all over the news in Malaysia.

LEISSNER Jho was trying to throw the firm under the bus?

LIM Mm. Mm.

LEISSNER I didn’t see that news. I didn’t see that news.

LIM Oh, it was all over the, uh, Malaysia. And I think it also came out in Bloomberg.

LEISSNER I see, okay, I’ll check that out.

LIM Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. You can check that out. It was also in Bloomberg but I saw it in Malaysia inside quoting Bloomberg.

LEISSNER Got you, got you.

LIM Mm mm.

LEISSNER K that’s interesting.

LIM So, so, which, I think probably that should be true because it’s out in the web, so that might just be true, so, that was his direction of moving.

LEISSNER Jho’s direction. Mm.

LIM After supposedly the [U/I] got stuck in Malaysia. That was the direction he was taking. Yeah, yeah, yeah.

LEISSNER Interesting. Interesting

LIM But, I, I, I, want to believe it's true.

LEISSNER Right, got you. And do you guys still see Terry from time to time or has he gone underground as well? Totally underground.

LIM I—when was the last time—I think we saw him, I think it was last year, you know, the last time I saw him.

LEISSNER Wow.

LIM Mm. It was quite some time ago, yeah, so I do not, I don't know so much about that really. I saw him probably in December last year.

LEISSNER Hm.

LIM Yeah, yeah. Yeah.

LEISSNER Does Boon-kee ever? [CROSS TALK]

LIM I think at that time he was--

LEISSNER Does Boon-Kee ever show up in Malaysia? No nothing huh, so sad huh?

LIM Never.

LEISSNER So sad.

LIM No, that was even further than that. That was even before the, uh, the incident in Singapore.

LEISSNER Right, right.

LIM Remember the incident in Singapore?

LEISSNER Yes, yes, of course.

LIM Never did after that, hm, hm. Never did after that, so that was pretty.

LEISSNER Yeah, I tried to reach out—

LIM Not even a phone call not even a text. You did?

LEISSNER Yeah, I tried to reach out to her and I never heard back from her, either.

LIM The last, the last, the last article came out, right? On Bloomberg.

LEISSNER Mhm.



LIM                               Saying that, uh, she was asked, right? Something like that.

LEISSNER                       She was interviewed

LIM                               That was in Singapore.

LEISSNER                       Yes, she was interviewed, that's what it said. [U/I] see that.

LIM                               Mm. Mm. Mm. But, the good thing is you know, you're getting back  
to your usual self. Getting, getting, getting there. Almost there,  
almost there.

LEISSNER                       [laughter] Thank you.

LIM                               So that's good. You keep yourself very very active and doing, going  
around. I think that's very important. And it's very good to hear.

LEISSNER                       I keep myself under the radar screen and quiet though, you know, so.  
Other than that, a lot of time with the family, which is the best.

LIM                               That's good.

LEISSNER                       Yeah, exactly.

LIM                               Good to hear that. [laughter]

LEISSNER                       Well, tell Rog good luck. Tell Roger good luck with, um, with  
Celsius. We need his help—because that's going to be an import--

LIM                               Yes I will I'll tell him that. And [U/I] concentrate on doing that too.  
And hoping to get back to many other things. Oh my gosh. [laughter]

LEISSNER                       Yeah. One of these days. One of these days, it will be normal again.

LIM                               Mm. I'm glad—I'm really glad all is well there.

LEISSNER                       Yeah.

LIM                               I get so worried not hearing from you for a while.

LEISSNER                       Yeah I know, that's why, you know, ping me anytime you want to.  
You know, if I can, I speak

LIM                               Okay, okay, and its always safe to talk to you.

LEISSNER                       Yes yes, well certainly if I'm in my own little surroundings, yes.

LIM                               [laughter] Okay, definitely, that's great. Yeah. And I will keep  
ourselves very safe here as well.

LEISSNER                       Please.

LIM                               I will keep myself very safe here. Yes. Definitely, I will.

LEISSNER And tell Roger all my best regards. And Victoria of course as well.  
LIM Yes, yeah you can hear Victoria just came into the room. [laughter]  
LEISSNER Oh, that's cute. That's very cute. Alright, see you guys.  
LIM Okay, good.  
LEISSNER Thanks for reaching out, okay, and be in touch. Don't worry about it,  
be in touch anytime.  
LIM Okay. Okay. Thank you.  
LEISSNER Thank you. Bye, be good. bye,  
VICTORIA [U/I]  
LEISSNER Bye, Victoria. [laughter]  
LIM Alright bye  
LEISSNER Bye  
LIM Okay.